

DIRECTORATE OF
INTELLIGENCE

Central Intelligence Bulletin

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8 December 1967

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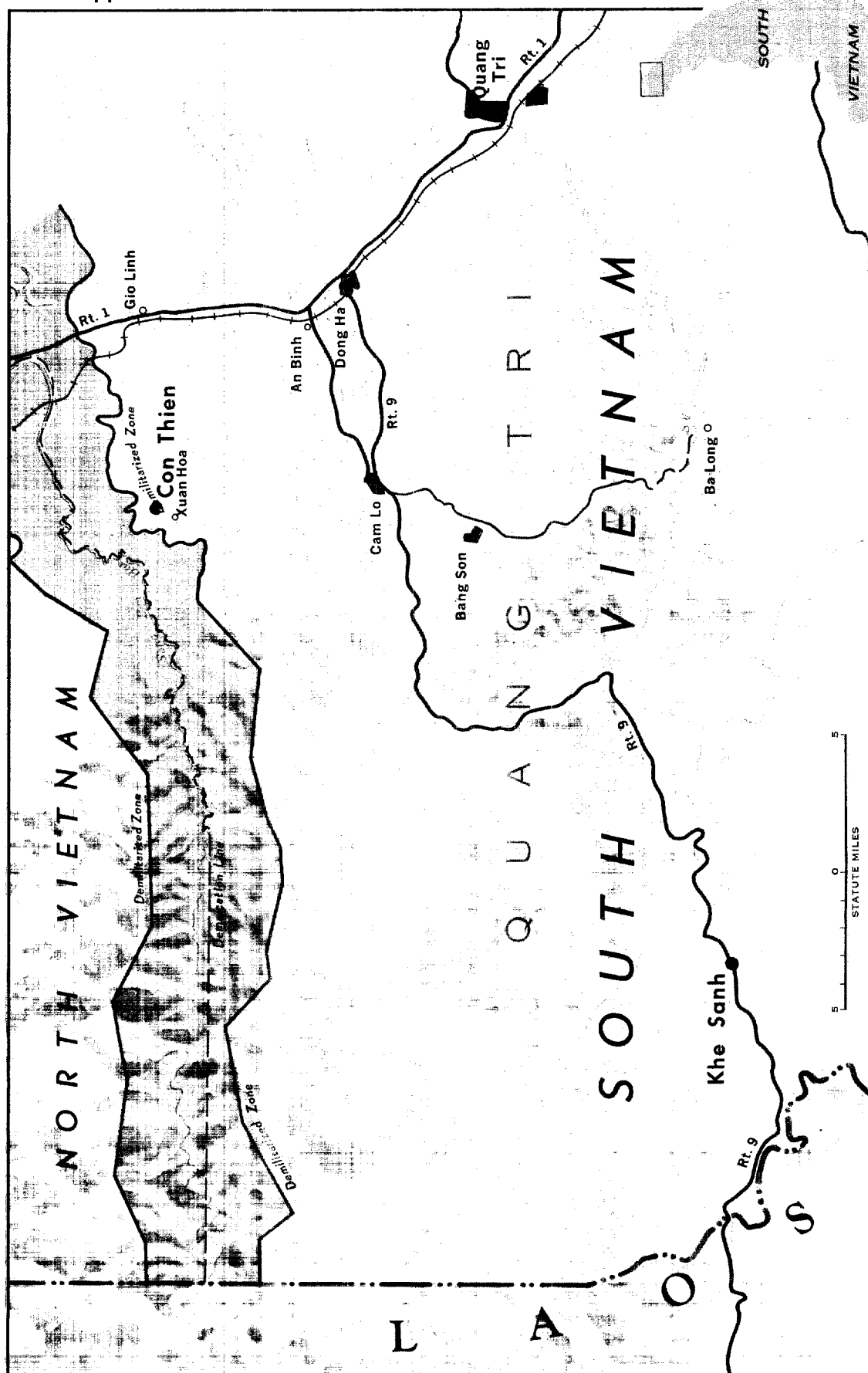
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*South Vietnam: Nearly 300 rounds of artillery and mortar fire fell on US Marine positions near Con Thien on 6 December.

During the bombardment, the heaviest in the area in over two months, a company-size North Vietnamese unit attacked a Marine outpost about two miles north-east of Con Thien. US losses in the attacks came to 13 killed and over 100 wounded. Air strikes and intense artillery barrages were directed at suspected North Vietnamese artillery positions.

The stepped-up enemy activity in the area suggests that the North Vietnamese may have decided to launch a new round of fighting around Con Thien, possibly in conjunction with attacks near Khe Sanh in western Quang Tri Province.

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Cyprus: The Turkish Government is keeping close watch on developments as the Greek withdrawal begins.

The Turks are still annoyed by the diplomatic maneuvering of President Makarios which they believe is designed to vitiate the thrust of the recent agreement. Ankara strongly desires that some way be devised for the UN force on Cyprus to monitor the withdrawal of Greek mainland troops.

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The bulk of the Turkish special Cyprus invasion force remains concentrated along Turkey's southern coast as a reminder of Ankara's continuing determination to uphold its position on Cyprus.

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Communist China - Burma: Peking is maintaining its propaganda offensive against Burma

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Chinese propaganda has been calling for a Communist-led "people's revolution" in Burma and reporting "victories" of the Communist Party of Burma in its twenty-year guerrilla war against Rangoon. Peking has harbored exiled Burmese Communist leaders for years but, until the sharp deterioration in Sino-Burmese relations last summer, refrained from open support for the party.

Despite the ominous tone of Chinese propaganda, Peking undoubtedly realizes that the Burmese Communists do not pose a serious threat to Rangoon. The Chinese, however, may be providing the party with some financial and small arms support as well as small-scale paramilitary training.

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Although low-keyed Chinese assistance probably will continue, more substantial material support would be difficult to deliver since the party's normal area of operation is some distance from the Chinese border.

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Dominican Republic: Growing concern over the disappearance of a former rebel leader is likely to aggravate the uneasy political atmosphere.

Col. Francisco Caamano Deno, leader of the "constitutionalist" forces during the 1965 civil war and now Dominican military attaché in London, was last seen on 25 October in The Hague where he was visiting two former "constitutionalist" officers.

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Since the news of Caamano's disappearance was made public in late November, Santo Domingo has been full of rumors that he has defected to Cuba, that he is in hiding in the Dominican Republic, that he was the victim of foul play by "foreign intelligence agencies," and that he was "out on a spree."

Caamano's disappearance is another ingredient in the current state of unease characterized by rumors of a coup from the right and by the first public disorders since last April and May. If Caamano returns to the country he might serve as a rallying point for dissident leftist elements; however, it is believed that he would draw only minimal support from the military.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The United States Intelligence Board on 7 December 1967 approved the following national intelligence estimates:

SNIE 87.2-67, "Guyana,"

NIE 91-67, "Argentina,"

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